

## [Interview with Vito Cacciola #54]

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INTERVIEW

WITH

VITO CACCIOLA

. . .

by

Merton R. Lovett

. . .

“As well as remembered.”

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. . .

(from memory)

“Good morning Rose. I trusta you has good health.

“I will fixa de shoes nice. It will costa you seventy five cents.

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"You say, 'What the Hell?' Believe you me you will not finda in Hell one good soul, but I will put a for you two fine soles on de shoes. Is not two soles wortha seventy-five cents?

"No? Well, since you is de good customer and so beautiful, I will charge you but seventy cents. Is it O.K?

"Thanka you. I will have them ready to-night.

"You may dependa on Vito. Good-a-bye.

"Mr. Lovett, Rose is not de true lady. She lacka good manners. She needa de politeness, and confinement.

"What you say? You hope she hasa twins? But Rose is not married. Twins would mean mucha disgrace.

"But I did not say she needa baby, Mr. Lovett. My mind it wasa pure. I think-ed no sin.

"I never make such remarks. I thinka you make de bum joke.

"Sure, I saya Rose needa de politeness and confinement. She hasa rudeness now.

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"But that is impossible, Mr. Lovett. I use de word many times. It is in my red book.

"Sure, I will geta de dictionary. It is you who will be surpris-ed.

"Has you founda it? Let me looka. "A woman's illness at de time of childbirth.' Dear, dear, dear!! I make de big mistake. I was confus-ed. Whata is de word I should saya?

"Refinement! Refinement! I will memoriza that word. Hah, hah, hah! Suppos a I make such error when I talka to nice womans. It would bea terrible.

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"Many girls hava not refinement today. I seea much carelessness and monkey business. Often I geta worried.

"Last week I seea Concetta Onesta making chums with de tough girl. Concetta is daughter of de friend of mine. She is pure. I thinka she is unkiss-ed.

"Oh, they walka along de street and flirta with many bums. Concetta she copies what de bad girl doa. I thinka that soon she will geta caught in de scrape.

"Why, I tella her father.

"I do not know what he doesa, but it is much. Last night I seea Concetta at her house. I saya to her, 'I meeta your friends on de street corner. Is you not going out? Does you keepa them waiting?'

"She replya, 'No, Vito, I must getta my lessons.'

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"Sure, that's a right. Her father had puta his foot down. He will standa for no foolishness.

"Yes, I often warna peoples of sin.

"No, I does not always hava success. I think I must usa more care. Many peoples do not wanta to learn de Way of Life. They calla me de priest. They taka their shoes to some other cobbler. I losa de business."

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